

## FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

REA.24

NR:MRA

duplicate

NR:MRA

Area	Form no.
A	24

NR:MRA 7/11/84  
sect-A

Reading

1177 Main Street

c Name John B. Nichols Houseiginal Dwellingesent Dwellingip: ☒ Private individual  
Private organization

Public

iginal owner John B. Nichols

TION:

Date c. 1830-54Source map 1854Style Greek Revival-ItalianateArchitect n/aExterior wall fabric ClapboardsOutbuildings Garage

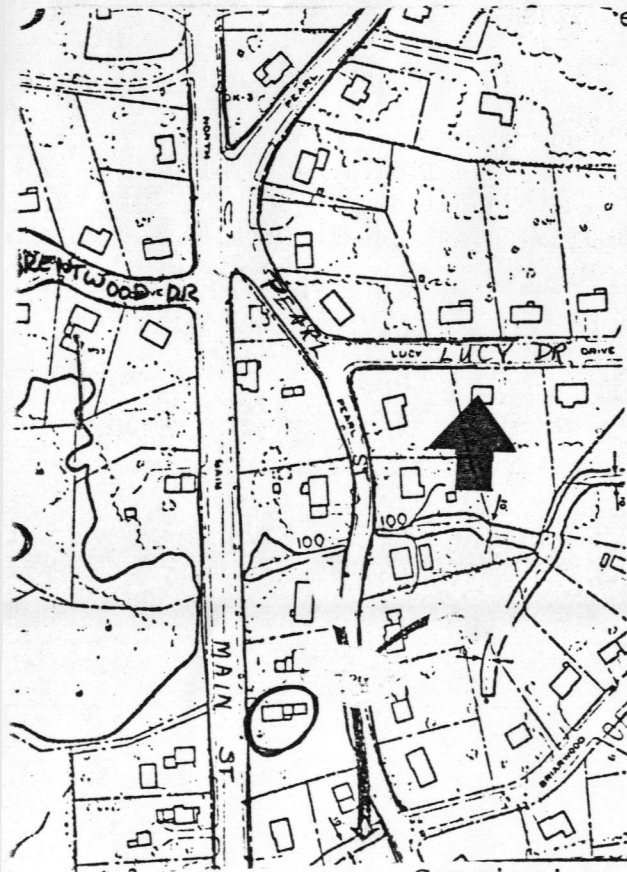
Major alterations (with dates) Extension  
rear of 1 1/2 story, dormer added,  
exterior chimney added.

Moved no DateApprox. acreage 1 acre

Setting Faces west on hill close  
to turnpike; granite fence posts  
used to hold wooden rails.

UTM: 19/327200/4712380

cross streets and other buildings  
es.

Associates  
tical

Date Commission  
November 30, 1980

(Staple additional sheets)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

This 1 1/2 story gable end house has some interesting features from Greek Revival and Italianate styles. The gables do not return, but have mitered ends, and the cornice is very broad, being made of lapped boards on both gable end and sides. Transitional to the Italianate, full length windows capped by shallow pediments appear on the first floor, while paired colonnettes support the full width porch.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

The Nichols, members of a very early Reading family, were probably farmers. A glance at the Reading Map of 1875 shows the northern part of town with 9 separate Nichols houses. This house was built near an ancestral homestead.

Criteria for Evaluation

The John B. Nichols House is significant chiefly as an interesting example of a building that reflects the transition between the Greek Revival and Italianate style in residential architecture. It retains integrity of location, design, setting, material and workmanship and meets Criterion C of the National Register.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1830  
1854 map John B. Nichols  
1875 map J. B. Nichols

Eaton, History of Reading, Massachusetts



STREET

